

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 1 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,788,340 to Kobayashi.

Claims 2-3 and 5-6 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Response to the Office Action

Applicant has rewritten claim 2 in independent form. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 2 is in condition for allowance. Claims 3, 5 and 6 depend from claim 2 and recite the same allowable features recited in claim 2, as well as additional features that distinguish over the art of record. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the objection to claims 2-3 and 5-6 be withdrawn, and the claims allowed.

Claims 1 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kobayashi. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). The Office Action alleges that the features “when only a side of the output shaft is driven, all of the plurality of cam members are operated to move to sides of large diameters in order to hamper rotation of the output shaft” recited in claim 1 are only functional and unsupported by structure that defines over Kobayashi. Applicant has amended claim 1 to particularly point out and distinctly claim Applicant’s invention. However, Applicant submits that the amendment in no way narrows the scope of the claims. Claim 1 recites an electric parking brake mechanism, including an input shaft, an output shaft, and a cam mechanism interposed between the input shaft and the output shaft. The cam mechanism includes a plurality of cam members each having a cam face a radius of which is gradually increased relative to a rotational center. The parking brake mechanism

includes a configuration wherein the input shaft is not driven, the output shaft is driven, and large diameter portions of all of the plurality of cam members hamper rotation of the output shaft.

Support for these features is provided at, for example, page 13, ll. 9-25, and Fig. 9, of Applicant's specification.

Applicant respectfully submits that Kobayashi does not teach or suggest at least the features of a parking brake mechanism including a configuration wherein the input shaft is not driven, the output shaft is driven, and large diameter portions of all of the plurality of cam members hamper rotation of the output shaft, as recited in claim 1. Accordingly, claim 1 is patentable.

Claim 4 depends from claim 1 and recites the same allowable features recited in claim 1, as well as additional features that distinguish over the art of record. Applicant requests that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), of claims 1 and 4, be withdrawn and the claims allowed.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

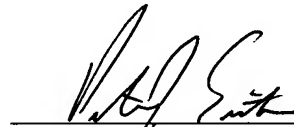
If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.R.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted

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Dated: November 2, 2004

By:



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